

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:168
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
CONSUMER FORUMS
BIR SING MAHATO;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States/UTs have not set up a consumer forum in each district as per provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;
- (b) if so, the names of such States/UTs alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether due to non-establishment of such forums, the Union Government are facing any problems in protecting the interests of the consumers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government propose to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to make it mandatory for the States to set up such forums; and
- (f) if not, the other corrective steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (f) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 168 FOR 29/11/2002 REGARDING CONSUMER FORUMS

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. In a few newly created districts the District Forums are yet to be set up by the State Governments as mentioned below:

Gujarat	7 (6 new districts and one old district)
Jharkhand	4 (New districts)
Karnataka	7 (New districts)
Maharashtra	4 (New districts)
Tripura	1 (New district)

(c) & (d): It is the responsibility of the State Governments under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to set up District Forum in every district. To protect consumer interests State Governments make alternate arrangements by extending the jurisdictions of the other District Forums, till the time, in such districts the District Forums are established.

(e) & (f): In terms of the provisions of Section 9 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 the State Government shall setup in each district a District Forum. Besides, the State Commission shall also be established by the State Government in each State.